

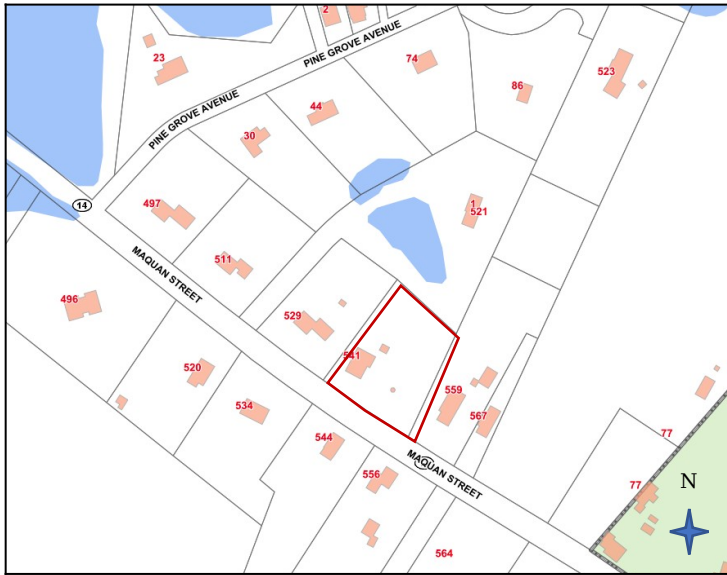
# FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## Photograph



## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson  
community preservation + planning

**Organization:** Hanson Historical Commission

**Date (month / year):** June 2018

Assessor's Number    USGS Quad    Area(s)    Form  
Number

69-0-3D-0

Hanover

HNS.245

**Town/City:** Hanson

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*):

**Address:** 541 Maquan Street

**Historic Name:** Seth and Joanna Foster  
House

**Uses:** Present: Single-Family  
Residential  
Original: Single-Family Residential

**Date of Construction:** ca.1810

**Source:** White's History, Plan 7 No. 26, Page  
132

**Style/Form:** Federal/Cape

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle/ Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
Gable-end shed to the west of the house

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Vinyl  
replacement windows.

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no ☒    yes ☐    **Date:**

**Acreage:** .73 Acres

**Setting:** Located in a small residential area of  
moderately sized, well spread out lots surrounded  
by ponds and wetlands adjacent to the  
Hanson/Pembroke town line.



# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The one-and-a-half story Cape style house has an asphalt shingled gable roof with a wide, square brick chimney at the center of the roof ridge. The house sits on a slight rise above the street on an open lot surrounded by mature trees to the north and has a wide, cross-gable addition extending across its entire north façade. The house is wood shingle sided with wood trim and six-over-six double hung vinyl replacement windows throughout. The roof of the house overhangs the gable facades only slightly with wood trimmed eaves and soffits projecting out over the wood shingled facades and narrow corner boards below. The roof ends flush with the gable-end facades, where a narrow band of wood trim outlines the pediment. The gable facades do not have a cornice and the wood frames of the windows and door extend up to the soffits. The window frames have wide symmetrical wood molding and narrower projecting sills.

The house faces south towards the street and has a symmetrical front facade with two windows to either side of the center entrance. The door frame has a narrow flat header running along the top edge of the wall with narrow boards to either side of the solid, vertical wood board door. The door opens onto a short cement landing leading into the yard. Working wood shutters are located around the double hung windows on the south façade as well. The east and west gable-ends of the house are nearly identical in design with a single window in each gable-end and one to either side of the first floor below. On the east façade, a pair of windows is located in the northeast corner of the façade rather than a single window. The cross-gable addition to the north façade of the house is flush with the west gable-end, where the siding is painted rather than left to weather as seen on the other facades. The façade has two double hung windows and a metal bulkhead in the northwest corner of the façade. On the east façade, a long, shed-roofed porch hood extends from the northeast corner of the gable-end across the full east façade of the addition. The roof is supported by square wood columns with wood braces on either side. On the east façade below, a door is visible in the far north end of the porch and three double hung windows are visible below.

An unpaved driveway leads from the road to a parking area to the east of the house. Behind the parking area is a short, square uneven gable-end shed sided in wood boards with a storm style door at the center of its south façade. Bushes and foundation plantings line the south façade of the building and a short stretch of wood picket fence extends across the center of the west property line. A few large mature trees are located in front of the building and a planting bed and bushes runs along the east side of the driveway.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

According to White's History of Hanson, 541 Maquan Street was built in 1910 by William Hovey for John Menzie but a review of the deeds for the property shows no connection to John Menzie, who did live on Maquan Street during the early twentieth century but appears to have lived in a neighboring house, perhaps on a piece of land sold off from the original farm. White's History also includes a note that the house may be older and was actually built closer to 1810. This appears to be closer to the truth, as deeds and maps of the area trace the property

*Continuation sheet 3*

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back as far as the 1830 Smith Plan which lists a "S. Foster" is living in the house while the 1856 Walling Map shows a "Mrs. Foster" in the house at that time. Seth Foster(1784-1847)<sup>1</sup> had married Joanna Robinson Foster (1784-1872) in 1809 and the house appears to have been built for the couple shortly after their marriage. Joanna is listed as running a farm in the 1850 state census, and her sons Isaac and Nahum F. Foster lived in neighboring houses on the south side of Maquan Street. After Joanna's death, the property passed down to Horace Waldo Foster, although how this happened is not clear as Horace was not a direct descendant of either Joanna or Seth. Horace Waldo Foster (1849-1912) was a carpenter and member of the South Hanson Phoenix Mason's Lodge who only briefly owned the property before selling it in 1874 to Robert Calder of Boston.<sup>2</sup> The 1879 Walker Map shows "R. Calder Jr." living in the house. The 1880 U.S. Census lists Calder as a sawyer and farmer, and shows him living in Hanson with his wife, Sarah, and four children. In 1884, Calder sold the property to Susan Sheldon of Somerville, a divorced woman living with her daughter and son-in-law, Charles and Roanna Hammett, at that time. It is unclear whether Susan lived in Hanson full time or owned the house as a summer home. In either case, she did not own it long before selling it to Mary and George Leavens of Somerville, who sold it again in 1891 to Lincoln H. Hutchinson of New Hampshire.<sup>3</sup> Hutchinson lived here for less than a decade before selling it to Richard Carter of Brockton in 1899.<sup>4</sup> The 1903 Richards Atlas shows R. Carter as the owner of the property, which at the time included a small barn to the north and two additional outbuildings, along with a walkway leading to the adjacent home of H.Menzie. Richard Carter (1849-1916) had immigrated from England in 1887 and is listed as a farmer on both the 1900 and 1910 U.S. Census. He transferred the property to his wife, Elizabeth, before his death and in 1917 it passed through several hands before being purchased by Margaret M. Sullivan of Quincy.<sup>5</sup>

Margaret Sullivan is listed as a widow by the 1950s but there is no evidence that she or her husband, William H. Sullivan, lived in Hanson for any length of time during the over thirty years that they owned the property. In 1955, Margaret sold the house to Paul F. and Gertrude Cotty of Pembroke and the house again went through a period of short term ownerships with the Cotty's selling the house in 1957 to Barbara S. Washburn who sold it in 1962 to James A. and Muriel C. Maclellan who sold it again that same year to Peter T. and Sandra L. Beaton.<sup>6</sup> Sandra Beaton, now Sandra Ferreira, and John T. Ferreira sold the property to its current owner Old Cape Realty LLC, in 2015.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/121294850>

<sup>2</sup> Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 404, Page 107

<sup>3</sup> Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 596, Page 126; 619, Page 122

<sup>4</sup> Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 794, Page 145

<sup>5</sup> Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1211 Page 68; 1293, Page 329; 1289, Page 558; Book 1474, Page 358

<sup>6</sup> Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2414, Page 368; Book 2550, Page 410; Book 2917, Page 16; Book 2987, Page 224

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